

off the duck's back



LAKE BREEZE
LANGHORNE CREEK



Photo: Jon Burke



WATER INTO WINE

At Lake Breeze floods are part of the fabric which makes our patch unique.

There have been exceptionally good flows down the Bremer this year and the photo above shows the one good 'inundation' that occurred. This has saturated the profile of our deep alluvial soils and given the vines a great start to the growing season.

Langhorne Creek has a rich history as a wine region and the Bremer and Angas River flood plains play a huge role in that.

With all of the devastating floods on the east coast this year, we did think twice about using this photo on the front cover, but it is such a great snapshot of how the floods interact with both the majestic river red gums and the patchwork of vines.

As I write, set up is in full swing for our *Handpicked* music festival, however we were very close to having a flood put a big 'dampener' on proceedings in early November.

My nieces, Kate and Lauren and brother Roger, have invested a lot of time into the event and the vineyard boys have the property looking a treat, so our fingers and toes are crossed for fine weather.

This is actually the seventh festival we've held, but it still never ceases to amaze me that these artists are playing to such a huge audience in our backyard. It still feels like yesterday we were feeding the cows here! Actually, for 9 months of the year, the cows do still graze on a large part of the site. Don't worry, Ken's made sure it's a cow pat free zone.

After a 3 year hiatus due to Covid, it is great to have this event back and with tickets selling out in 16 days it shows the public were keen to see it return also. My days in the mosh pit might be behind me, but I'll be toe-tapping in the back stalls! Rock on!

Cheers,
Greg Follett
Winemaker



new releases

One of the most anticipated new releases this year is our **2016 The Drake**. It has garnered a lot of attention since James Halliday awarded it **98 pts** in his **2023 Wine Companion**.

From the exceptional 2016 vintage and using the best barrel of cabernet and shiraz from the vintage, we feel this represents outstanding value for money. When you consider it was in the top handful of cabernet/shiraz blends in the Halliday Companion, with the wines around it valued between \$200 and \$900 a bottle, at \$80 it's a bargain!

"... When the wine first enters the mouth you begin to question whether there can be too much of a good thing, until the wine soars on the finish with a satin and velvet stream of incredible purity and length." **98 pts James Halliday**

We have a plethora of other new releases at the moment including the ever reliable and popular **2020 Bernoota** and **2020 Cabernet Sauvignon**. Both were gold medal winners at our Langhorne Creek Wine Show earlier this year and scream 'Langhorne Creek'.

The **2021 Section 54 Shiraz** is a fitting follow up to the highly acclaimed 2020 Section 54 Shiraz that received 97 points from Halliday. The 2021 vintage is one of those great years and Greg is super excited about the blends he's put together from this vintage.

Our **2021 Reserve Chardonnay** was awarded the Best White Wine Trophy at our Langhorne Creek Wine Show back in May. This is the 6th occasion it has done so, and Greg thinks this could be the best chardonnay he has produced to date.

We are also thrilled to be releasing a bunch of wines from the super cool 2022 vintage. Our **Old Vine Grenache** and **Nero d'Avola** have just gone to bottle and look superb. Unfortunately, we have limited supplies of both and with them vying for most popular luncheon red at Lake Breeze, it may be a race to see which sells out quickest!

Our **2022 Rosato** and **2022 Vermentino** have just been released in time for the spring and summer festivities. Both are drinking dangerously and in its only wine show appearance, the 2022 Vermentino, was a bee's whisker away from a gold medal at the Royal Adelaide Wine Show with a silver medal and 94pts.

james halliday 2023 wine companion

Along with Greg being shortlisted for the Winemaker of the Year, we have once again been given the highest rating of 5 red stars and we're still holding on to the fact we were the 2022 Best Value Winery of the Year.

We will leave the last word to James himself ...

MY TASTING OF THE 15 CURRENT RELEASE PORTFOLIO YIELDED ONE WINE AT 98 POINTS, AND TWO EACH AT 97, 96 AND 95 POINTS, THE REMAINDER 94-90, ONE 88. ASTONISHING.



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VINEYARD REPORT

After two frost events in two years, this spring we have invested in two new static frost fans for the vineyard. They automatically switch on when the temperature drops below 2°C and can each cover 7-8 hectares. We are fortunate to not have experienced any frost events of note this year, the fans have only activated on a few occasions.

This is the third year in a row that Australia has experienced a La Niña event. Whilst our rainfall has been slightly higher than normal, most of the big rains again have fallen on the east coast of the country.

All indicators are showing a later than average harvest, with Langhorne Creek experiencing much cooler conditions than usual.





where's your Bernoota been?

This stunning shot from John and Brenda whilst on safari in Zambia is our 2022 winner of our 'Where's Your Bernoota Been?' competition.

The next best thing to visiting Monarto Safari Park is going on safari in Africa!

Grapes for Good global acclaim

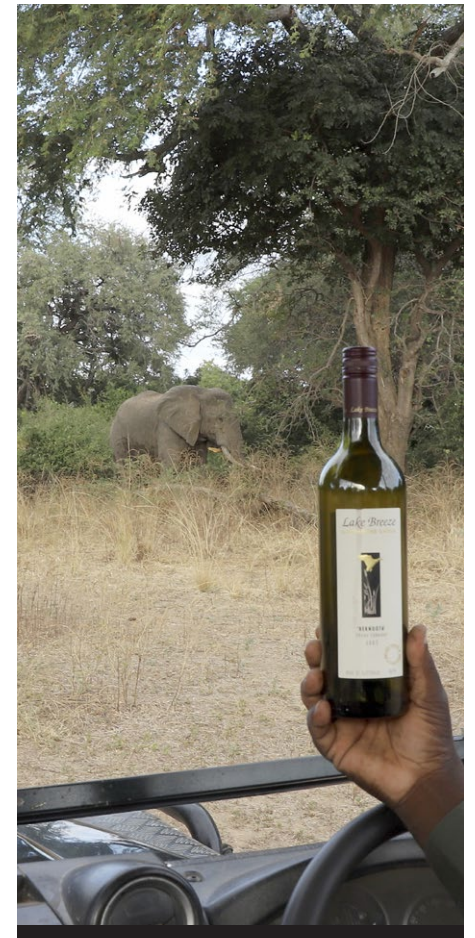
We are thrilled that the Langhorne Creek **Grapes for Good** wine trail was announced as a winner at the **2023 Best of Wine Tourism Awards** in Argentina.

After winning an Excellence Award in Adelaide, we were thrown onto the world stage, amongst 11 wine capitals including Bordeaux and San Francisco/Napa Valley.

Our Grapes for Good partnership with five other Langhorne Creek wine producers supports the conservation efforts at the nearby Monarto Safari Park.

Since November 2021, we have raised over \$30,000 for the conservation programs for endangered species at the park.

When you're in Langhorne Creek next, follow the trail to each winery to collect the six Grapes for Good wines. Or visit Monarto Safari Park, it is only 30 minutes from us and is the largest open-range safari park outside of Africa.



lunch at Lake Breeze

We really have become a destination for lunch these days. We have a great menu, featuring specials most days as well. It pays to reserve your table ahead of time, as we quickly become booked out most weekends.



Join our wine club!
Call us to become a
Duck Club member.





EVENTS



Handpicked Festival

Lake Breeze Wines
Sat, Nov 12



Langhorne Creek Vignerons' Cup

Strathalbyn Racecourse
Sun, Nov 27

cellar treasures

Our Cellar Treasures Weekend in August is one of the best weekends to visit Langhorne Creek, when each of our wineries open a plethora of back vintage wines. This year our masterclass focused on the 'great Aussie blend' of shiraz and cabernet.

Those that joined us had the opportunity to savour our 1992, 2002, 2004, 2010, 2012 and 2016 Bernoota's and our 2009 and 2014 The Drake. Not a bad way to see a snapshot of 30 years hard work here at Lake Breeze.

Photos: Sam Oster.

Our entire Follett family extends their very best wishes to you and your family for a very happy Christmas!


Warmest regards,
Robyn.


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Moving with the times, we no longer have a fax line. So just call us any time with your order or queries.

Visit our website to keep up to date with our news and events.

www.lakebreeze.com.au
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www.alicesbedandbreakfast.com.au

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